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# SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER TERM, 1977

NO. 77-1313

LELA ENSOR BAILEY,

*Petitioner-Appellant,*

v.

J. W. STREET,

*Respondent-Appellee.*

In the United States Court of Appeals for  
the Sixth Circuit, on Appeal from the United  
States District Court, Eastern District of  
Tennessee, Northeastern Division

## PETITION FOR THE WRIT OF CERTIORARI

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Appendum . . . . .	22
Certificate of Service . . . . .	29
Constitutional Provisions Involved [Section IV] . . . . .	3
Judgment Sought to be Reviewed [Section I] . . . . .	1-2
Jurisdictional Grounds for Review [Section II] . . . . .	2
Question for Review [Section III] . . . . .	2-3
Reasons and Argument for Allowance of Writ [Section VI] . . . . .	14-20
Relief Sought [Section VII] . . . . .	20-21
Statement of the Case [Section V] . . . . .	7-14
Statutes Involved [Section IV] . . . . .	3-7

## TABLE OF CITATIONS

### Cases:

<i>Buckholtz v. Hamilton County</i> , 180 Tenn. 263, 174 S.W. 2d 455 . . . . .	10, 16
<i>Camara v. Municipal Court of City and County of San Francisco</i> , 87 S.Ct. 1727 . . . . .	20
<i>Chamberland v. Brown</i> , 223 Tenn. 25, 442 S.W. 2d 248 . . . . .	16
<i>Chandler v. Davidson County</i> , 142 Tenn. 265, 218 S.W. 222 . . . . .	10, 16
<i>Deane Hill Country Club, Inc. v. City of Knoxville</i> , 379 F.2d 321, 325-26 (6th Cir. 1967) . . . . .	14, 17
<i>Hawkins v. Dawn</i> , 208 Tenn. 544, 347 S.W. 2d 480 . . . . .	10, 16
<i>Hoffman v. U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development</i> , C.A. Tex. 1975, 519 F.2d 1160 . . . . .	17

<i>Hollers v. Campbell</i> ,	
192 Tenn. 442, 241 S.W.2d 523 . . . . .	10, 16
<i>Johnson v. Roane County</i> ,	
212 Tenn. 433, 370 S.W. 2d 496 . . . . .	19
<i>Jones v. Cocke County</i> ,	
61 Tenn. App. 455, 456 S.W. 2d 665 . . .	11, 16, 19
<i>Lawlor v. National Screen Service Corp.</i> ,	
75 S.Ct. 865, 349 U.S. 322, 99 L.Ed. 1122.	18
<i>Lynch v. Household Finance Corporation</i> ,	
405 U.S. 538, 92 S.Ct. 1113 . . . . .	19
<i>Meredith v. State of Arizona</i> ,	
C.A. Ariz. 1973, 542 F.2d 1160 . . . . .	17
<i>Monday v. Knox County</i> ,	
220 Tenn. 313, 417 S.W. 2d 536 . . . . .	9
<i>Monroe v. Pape</i> ,	
(1961), 365 U.S. 167, 81 S.Ct. 473, 5 L.Ed. 2d 492 . . . . .	16, 20
<i>Rogoski v. City of Muskegon</i> ,	
550 F.2d 1075 (6th Cir. 1977) . . . . .	14
<i>Unicoi County v. Barnett</i> ,	
181 Tenn. 565, 132 S.W. 2d 865 . . . . .	10, 16
<i>U. S. v. International Building Co.</i> ,	
1953, 345 U.S. 502 . . . . .	17

*Statutes:*

Title 28 U.S.C. § 1254 (1) . . . . .	2
Title 28 U.S.C. § 1343 . . . . .	4
Title 42 U.S.C. § 1983 . . . . .	3
U.S.C., Constitution, Amend. 5 . . . . .	4
U.S.C., Constitution, Amend. 14 . . . . .	5
U.S.C., Constitution, Amend. 4 . . . . .	5
U.S.C., Constitution, Art. 4 § 2, Cl. 1 . . .	6, 9
Tenn. Code Ann. § 23-1422 . . . . .	6, 16
Tenn. Code Ann. § 23-1423 . . . . .	6, 16

APPENDUM INDEX

	Page
ORDER of United States Court of Appeals for Sixth Circuit, Entered January 13, 1978 . . . . .	22
ORDER on Mandate Affirming Judgment of District Court, Entered February 16, 1978, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee . . . . .	24
MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER Entered June 24, 1976 in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee . . . . .	25

In The  
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LELA ENSOR BAILEY,  
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*In the United States Court of Appeals  
for the Sixth Circuit, No. 76-2015*

**PETITION FOR THE WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

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TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF THE  
UNITED STATES:

Petitioner Lela Ensor Bailey presents this her petition  
and says:

I. This is a petition for the writ of certiorari to have  
reviewed the decision, order, and opinion of the United  
States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit rendered and  
entered in the above styled cause under Docket No. 76-2015,

whereby the Honorable United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit affirmed the opinion, order and judgment of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Northeastern Division, the Honorable C. G. Neese, District Judge. The opinions are unreported and copies of same are appended hereto.

II. The grounds on which the jurisdiction of this Court is invoked are:

(a) The order, opinion and judgment sought to be reviewed is dated and was entered January 13, 1978 by the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

(b) Jurisdiction is conferred upon this Court to review the judgment or decree of the Court of Appeals by writ of certiorari by *Title 28 U.S.C. § 1254 (1)*, which provides as follows:

**§ 1254. Courts of appeals; certiorari; appeal; certified questions**

Cases in the courts of appeals may be reviewed by the Supreme Court by the following methods:

(1) By writ of certiorari granted upon the petition of any party to any civil or criminal case, before or after rendition of judgment or decree; \* \* \*

III. This suit, as commenced in the district court, is a suit for compensatory and punitive damages for deprivation of civil rights under the provisions of *Title 42 United States Code § 1983*. The District Judge dismissed petitioner's complaint filed in the district court and sustained the motion to dismiss filed by the respondent J. W. Street upon the finding and holding that a judgment entered in the Circuit Court of Carter County, Tennessee, in a

cause styled *Lela Ensor Bailey and Mary Ensor v. J. W. Street, Road Superintendent, and Carter County, Tennessee [Civil Action No. 1771]*, is res judicata as to this civil rights action in the district court. Upon appeal by the petitioner, the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit affirmed the decision of the District Judge. The only question for review by this Court is, did the Court of Appeals err as a matter of law and justice in affirming the decision and judgment of the District Judge, and in holding "that the District Court did not err in dismissing the complaint [of petitioner] on the grounds of res judicata"? Petitioner says that the Honorable Court of Appeals is in error in so holding, and that this Honorable Court should review and reverse the decision and judgment of the Court of Appeals.

IV. The constitutional provisions and statutes which are involved in this case are as follows:

***Title 42 United States Code § 1983***

**§ 1983. Civil action for deprivation of rights**

Every person who, under color of any statute, ordinance, regulation, custom, or usage, of any State or Territory, subjects, or causes to be subjected, any citizen of the United States or other person within the jurisdiction thereof to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution and laws, shall be liable to the party injured in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.

R.S. § 1979.

**Title 28 United States Code § 1343****§ 1343. Civil rights and elective franchise**

The district courts shall have original jurisdiction of any civil action authorized by law to be commenced by any person:

(1) \* \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \* \*

(3) To redress the deprivation, under of any State law, statute, ordinance, regulation, custom or usage, of any right, privilege or immunity secured by the Constitution of the United States or by any Act of Congress providing for equal rights of citizens or of all persons within the jurisdiction of the United States

(4) To recover damages or to secure equitable or other relief under any Act of Congress providing for the protection of civil rights, including the right to vote.

June 25, 1948, c. 646, 62 Stat. 932; Sept. 3, 1954, c. 1263, § 42, 68 Stat. 1241; Sept. 9, 1957, Pub. L. 85-315, Part III, § 121, 71 Stat. 637.

*United States Code Annotated, Constitution, Amendment 5, p.4:*

**AMENDMENT V - CAPITAL CRIMES: DOUBLE JEOPARDY: SELF-INCRIMINATION: DUE PROCESS: JUST COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTY**

No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia,

when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

*United States Code Annotated, Constitution, Amendments 13 and 14, p. 33:*

**AMENDMENT XIV. - CITIZENSHIP: PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES: DUE PROCESS: EQUAL PROTECTION \* \* \* \***

Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.  
\* \* \* \*

*United States Code Annotated, Constitution, Amendments 1 and 4, p. 361:*

**AMENDMENT IV - SEARCHES AND SEIZURES**

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause,

supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

*United States Code Annotated, Constitution, Article 3 to Article 7, p. 572:*

4 § 2, cl. 1 Constitution

Section 2, Clause 1. Privileges and Immunities

Section 2. The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens of the several States.

*Tennessee Code Annotated, Sections 23-1422 & 23-1423:*

23-1422. Prerequisites to occupation. - No person or company shall, however, enter upon such land for the purpose of actually occupying the right of way, until the damages assessed by the jury of inquest and the costs have been actually paid; or if an appeal has been taken, until the bond has been given to abide by the final judgment as proved in § 23-1420. [Code 1858, § 1346; Shan., § 1865; Code 1932, § 3130; C. Supp. 1950, § 3130.]

[The provisions of this law would govern the condemnation of right-of-way for highways. Department of Highways & Public Works v. Gamble, 18 Tenn. App. 95, 73 S.W. (2d) 175].

23-1423. Action initiated by owner. - If, however, such person or company has actually taken possession of such land, occupying it for the purposes of internal improvement, the owner of such land may petition for

a jury of inquest, in which case the same proceedings may be had, as near as may be, as hereinbefore provided; or he may sue for damages in the ordinary way, in which case the jury shall lay off the land by metes and bounds and assess the damages, as upon the trial of an appeal from the return of a jury of inquest.

Additionally, the court rendering a judgment for the plaintiff in a proceeding brought under paragraph one of this section, arising out of a cause of action identical to a cause of action that can be brought against the United States under section 1346(a) (2) or 1491 of Title 28, United States Code, or the attorney general or chief legal officer of a political subdivision of the state effecting a settlement of any such proceeding, shall determine and award or allow to such plaintiff, as a part of such judgment such sum as will in the opinion of the court, or the attorney general or chief legal officer of a political subdivision of the state reimburse such plaintiff for his reasonable costs, disbursements and expenses, including reasonable attorney, appraisal and engineering fees, actually incurred because of such proceeding. [Code 1858, § 1347; Shan., § 1866; Code 1932, § 3131; Acts 1972 (Adj. S.), ch. 463, § 3.]

V. A statement of the facts of this case material to the consideration of the question presented to this Court for review by certiorari is as follows:

On January 5, 1976, petitioner Lela Ensor Bailey filed her complaint in the District Court against J. W. Street, as defendant, in Civil Action No. CIV-2-76-1, invoking the District Court's jurisdiction under Title 28

United States Code § 1343 and also under Title 28 United States Code § 1332, and seeking both punitive and compensatory damages for deprivation of civil rights by the defendant under the provisions of Title 42 United States Code § 1983. The complaint alleges that the petitioner is a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of Kentucky; that the defendant is a resident of Carter County, Tennessee; and that the defendant [respondent herein], while acting under the color of his office of Superintendent of Roads of Carter County, Tennessee, and under the laws of Tennessee, did subject the petitioner to the deprivation of her constitutional and civil rights, namely, (1) due process of law as secured by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution, (2) of her personal property without just compensation in violation of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, (3) of the right to be secure in her house and effects and against unreasonable seizures as protected by the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, and (4) of the privileges and immunities secured and protected by Article 4 § 2, Cl. 1, of the Constitution, by discriminating against her as a citizen of another state, by doing the following acts: (1) By constructing a landfill bridge across Stoney Creek, knowing same would cause a flooding and taking of petitioner's land and house thereon, and personal property therein located, by the diverting of waters upon petitioner's land and into her house to the great damage of the house, land and personal property therein located, without notice, hearing, and due process of law; (2) by the taking or damaging of the personal property therein located to the extent of being a taking by the flooding waters, caused by defendant, without just compensation, in violation of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution; and that said flooding occurred on March 29, 1975 and in April, 1975,

while a suit was pending in the Circuit Court of Carter County, Tennessee for damages and taking resulting from flooding on April 3, 1974, caused by defendant's willful action of diverting the waters, and on March 29, 1975, the premises had to be vacated because made uninhabitable; (3) by entering upon petitioner's land and premises, located in Carter County, Tennessee, in March and April, 1975, without search warrant, without easement or right, without notice or hearing, and without permission of plaintiff, with bull dozers and other equipment and moving land and rocks off of plaintiff's land and into heaps, in violation of the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, and at which time petitioner had a suit pending in State court seeking relief against the willful and oppressive action of the defendant J. W. Street; and (4) by depriving petitioner, a citizen of Kentucky, of privileges and immunities of citizens in Tennessee, in violation of Article 4 § 2 Cl. 1, of the U. S. Constitution, by constructing the landfill bridge of one citizen of Tennessee, while making it impossible for petitioner to come and go to her premises in Tennessee and to live on the same when visiting Tennessee because she was being discriminated against by having her premises flooded to accommodate a citizen of Tennessee.

The respondent J. W. Street filed a motion to dismiss in the District Court asserting that the complaint and action in the District Court was barred by res judicata by reason of a final judgment that was entered in the Circuit Court of Carter County, Tennessee on May 9, 1975 in the cause of Lela Ensor Bailey and Mary Ensor, plaintiffs, vs. J.W. Street, Superintendent of Roads of Carter County, and Carter County, Tennessee, defendants [Civil Action No. 1771]. The pertinent part of the adjudicating clause of the judgment in the Circuit Court in said cause reads as follows:

"IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED BY THE COURT:

"1. That the plaintiffs have and recover of defendant Carter County, Tennessee the sum of \$1500.00 as and for all damages and incidental damages, and compensation for a flowage easement over plaintiffs' land taken in manner as alleged in the complaint as amended, and the costs of the cause are taxed to the defendant Carter County, and for all of which execution will issue."

The original complaint filed by petitioner in the Circuit Court of Carter County [Cause No. 1771] against respondent Carter County, Tennessee and J. W. Street [respondent herein] sought to recover damages to both real and personal property "resulting from a nuisance created and continued by the defendants" in the flooding of the plaintiffs' property on *April 3, 1974* allegedly caused by construction of a landfill bridge by J. W. Street, Road Superintendent, acting for Carter County, Tennessee.

In the state Circuit Court proceeding [Cause No. 1771], the defendants J. W. Street, Road Superintendent, and Carter County, Tennessee, interposed a motion to dismiss, asserting governmental immunity and freedom from liability under the nuisance theory, relying on these authorities: *Unicoi County v. Barnett*, 181 Tenn. 565, 182 S.W. 2d 865; *Chandler v. Davidson County*, 142 Tenn. 265, 218 S.W. 222; *Buckholtz v. Hamilton County*, 180 Tenn. 263, 174 S.W. 2d 455; *Hollers v. Campbell*, 192 Tenn. 442, 241 S.W. 2d 523; *Hawkins v. Dawn*, 208 Tenn. 544, 347 S.W. 2d 480; and *Monday v. Knox County*, 220 Tenn. 313, 417 S.W. 2d 536.

In order to avoid dismissal in the state Circuit Court, in Cause No. 1771, plaintiffs Lela Ensor Bailey and others

amended their original complaint by striking all of the material allegations of the original complaint relating to nuisance theory as the basis for damages, and making Carter County, Tennessee alone the principal and only defendant against whom plaintiffs sought damages in the ordinary way under the provisions of Section 23-1423 Tennessee Code Annotated as an inverse condemnation suit for damages resulting from flooding waters on *April 3, 1974*, which were alleged to have been caused by the defendants in the construction of a landfill bridge across Stoney Creek. The amendment to the complaint, in the state court, concludes: "Wherefore, plaintiffs say that they are entitled to have and recover of defendant Carter County damages for damages inflicted upon and in appropriating their said property in manner alleged, as in inverse condemnation cases."

The action in the state court [Cause No. 1771], the judgment in which the District Judge held to be res judicata as to the civil rights action in this case, went to trial to a jury "sworn to try the issues joined," \* \* \* "as made up from the complaint as amended," and the "answer of the defendants and their amendment making an Act of God a defense," and the judgment on the jury's verdict is hereinbefore quoted and is a judgment against Carter County, Tennessee only for damages to land only resulting from flooding on April 3, 1974, as alleged in the amended complaint. In the trial of said state cause of action, the Trial Judge had ruled, and rightly so, that under Section 23-1423 Tennessee Code Annotated and the law of Tennessee there is no provision for recovering compensation from a governmental agency for taking personal property, or for damaging such in a manner as amounts to a taking. *Jones v. Cocke County*, 1970, 61 Tenn. App. 555, 456 S.W. 2d 665 at 668. There

were no claims made nor issues made up for the jury to decide in the state court action [Cause No. 1771] regarding deprivation of civil rights by the defendant J. W. Street, Road Superintendent, and defendant Carter County, Tennessee.

The respondent J. W. Street filed with his motion to dismiss in the District Court certified copies of the complaint, the amendment to the complaint, and the answer thereto as amended, filed in the Circuit Court of Carter County, Tennessee in the cause of Lela Ensor Bailey, et al, vs. J. W. Street, Road Superintendent, and Carter County, Tennessee [Civil Action 1771], and a certified copy of the judgment entered by the Circuit Court of Carter County, Tennessee, which by the District Court was held to be res judicata as to this action for deprivation of civil rights filed in the district court.

The District Judge, in his memorandum opinion and order of June 24, 1976, whereby he dismissed petitioner's action in the District Court upon motion to dismiss or for summary judgment, in pertinent part says as follows:

"This Court is of the opinion that the plaintiff's action herein is barred on the ground of res judicata. She \*\*\* must abide by the rule that a judgment upon the merits in one suit is res judicata in another where the parties and the subject matter are the same, not only as respects matters actually presented to sustain or defeat the right asserted, but also as respects any other matter which might have been presented to that end. \*\*\*" *Grubbs v. Public Utilities Commission* (1930), 281 U.S. 470, 50 S.Ct. 374, 74 L.Ed. 972, 979 (headnote 10).

"Verified exhibits before the Court reflect that Ms. Bailey sued Mr. Street in an inverse condemnation proceeding over same subject as she presents herein, and that she obtained judgment on May 22, 1975 on the merits therein. *Lela Ensor Bailey and Mary Ensor, plaintiffs v. J. W. Street, Superintendent of Roads of Carter County, Tennessee*. The plaintiff concedes that such judgment is final.

"Both lawsuits complain of the construction of a land-fill bridge across Stoney Creek in Carter County, Tennessee and flood damage to the property in which the plaintiff owns an interest as a result. Ms. Bailey claims herein that, in the process of accomplishing this public purpose, Mr. Street violated certain of her civil rights. In her earlier state court lawsuit she did not advance the federal constitutional claims she presents here. The state court was competent to decide questions arising under the federal Constitution. *Deane Hill Country Club, Inc. v. City of Knoxville*, C.A. 6th (1967), 379 F. (2d) 321, 325 [6], certiorari denied (1967), 389 U.S. 975, 88 S.Ct. 476, 19 L.Ed. (2d) 567. She is not permitted to withhold presentation of federal constitutional matters to sustain the rights she asserted in her state court action and then turn to a federal forum and litigate the same federal claim which she might have presented against Mr. Street in her state court action because she is dissatisfied with the action of the state court. 379 F. (2d) at 325 [6, 7]."

Petitioner Lela Ensor Bailey appealed the decision of the District Court to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit; and the Court of Appeals in its opinion, filed January 13, 1978, concisely stated its opinion in these words:

"This case was submitted on the briefs of the respective parties. Upon due consideration of the briefs and the record, we find that the District Court did not err in dismissing the complaint on the grounds of res judicata. *Rogoski v. City of Muskegon*, 550 F.2d 1075 (6th Circ. 1977); *Deane Hill Country Club, Inc. v. City of Knoxville*, 379 F.2d 321, 325-26 (6th Circ. 1967).

"It is ordered that the judgment of the District Court be and it hereby is affirmed."

Upon mandate of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, the District Judge under order filed Feb. 16, 1976, ordered as follows:

"IT IS ORDERED that the judgment entered in this cause on the 24th day of June, 1976, be and the same hereby is made final."

The petitioner Lela Ensor Bailey is aggrieved by the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, as aforesaid, and presents this her petition for certiorari for this Honorable Court to review the said judgment of the Court of Appeals.

#### VI. REASONS AND ARGUMENT AMPLIFYING THE REASONS RELIED ON FOR THE ALLOWANCE OF THE WRIT.

The writ should be allowed by this Court for the following reasons:

(1) The Court of Appeals has decided an important question of federal law which has not been, but should be, settled by this Court, as the authority relied on by the Court of Appeals does not decide and squarely settle the issue in this case.

(2) The Court of Appeals has decided a federal question in a way in conflict with decisions of this Court, and has departed from decisions of this Court declaring the purpose and nature of an action for deprivation of civil rights under Title 42, Section 1983, United States Code.

In amplification of point (1), it is to be noted that the Court of Appeals, in affirming the District Judge, relied on the cases of *Rogoski v. City of Muskegon*, 550 F.2d 1075 (6th Cir. 1977), and *Deane Hill Country Club, Inc. v. City of Knoxville*, 379 F.2d 321, 325-26 (6th Cir. 1967). These cases are not controlling and applicable to the instant case, because the *Rogoski* case was not a suit under Title 42, U.S.C. § 1983, and in the *Deane Hill Country Club, Inc.*, case, the Court of Appeals held that Title 42, U.S.C. § 1983, was not applicable to that case.

In the *Rogoski* case, the plaintiff was seeking additional compensation under the Fifth and 14th Amendments for condemned property on ground that the land was constructively or effectively taken five years before state condemnation proceedings, and the Court of Appeals held in the case that since under Michigan law in eminent domain cases the land owner may have litigated the date of taking in the state court and had it determined to be other than the *de jure* date of taking, the question could not be litigated in the federal court.

In the instant case: (1) Petitioner is not seeking additional compensation for condemned land in the District Court, but is seeking damages for (a) deprivation of civil rights guaranteed by the Federal Constitution, (b) deprivation of *personal property* [household furniture and appliances, etc.] without compensation, which cannot be obtained under Tennessee law because Tennessee law does not provide for procedure for obtaining compen-

sation for or damages to personal property by a governmental agency, which question of compensation and right to compensation was not allowed to go to the jury in the state action in the Circuit Court of Carter County as an issue in the state court action by ruling of the Circuit Judge under the authority of *Jones v. Cocke County*, 61 Tenn. App. 555, 456 S.W. 2d 665 at 668, wherein it is held that Tennessee eminent domain statutes do not apply to personal property, and (c) for deprivation of civil rights under the Fourth, Fifth and 14th Amendments to the Federal Constitution by the defendant J. W. Street on dates other than April 3, 1974, which was the date involved in the state court action, that is on dates in March and April, 1975, when the defendant J. W. Street entered upon petitioner's land without authority, without search warrant, and without prior judicial hearing or process. These issues were not and could not have been litigated in the State court under Tennessee eminent domain statutes. *Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 23-1422 and 23-1423*; *Jones v. Cocke County*, *supra*; and *Chamberland v. Brown*, 223 Tenn. 25, 442 S.W. 2d 248.

In the state court action, the defendants J. W. Street and Carter County, Tennessee had governmental immunity on every theory of law except under the inverse condemnation statute [T.C.A. § 23-1423]. *Unicoi County v. Barnett*, 181 Tenn. 565, 182 S.W. 2d 865; *Chandler v. Davidson County*, 142 Tenn. 265, 218 S.W. 222; *Buckholtz v. Hamilton County*, 180 Tenn. 263, 174 S.W. 2d 455; *Hollers v. Campbell*, 192 Tenn. 442, 241 S.W. 2d 523, and *Hawkins v. Dawn*, 208 Tenn. 544, 347 S.W. 2d 480. Carter County, Tennessee is not a "person" under Title 42, U.S.C. § 1983, and is not subject to suit under this civil rights statute. *Monroe v. Pape*, (1961), 365 U.S. 167, 81 S.Ct. 473, 5 L.Ed. 2d 492;

*Hoffman v. U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development*, C.A. Tex. 1975, 519 F.2d 1160; *Meredith v. State of Arizona*, C.A. Ariz. 1973, 523 F.2d 1160. J. W. Street was a nominal party to the suit in the Circuit Court of Carter County, and Carter County, Tennessee was the party against whom relief was sought and against whom it was granted, and it was not possible to raise the civil rights issues in the state court action [Cause #1771], nor were they raised in that suit, and therefore, the judgment in the state court action [Cause #1771] was not, under the authority cited and relied on by the Court of Appeals of the Sixth Circuit, res judicata as to the civil rights action in the District Court.

The *Deane Hill Country Club, Inc.*, case, *supra*, relied on by the Court of Appeals in affirming the District Court in the instant case, is not controlling authority in the instant case, because in that case the Supreme Court of Tennessee had decided in the case the very point which the federal district court was called upon to decide, namely, was an ordinance of the City of Knoxville valid and constitutional, and moreover, the Court of Appeals in the *Deane Hill Country Club, Inc.*, case held that Title 42, U.S.C. § 1983 [which is involved in the instant case] was not applicable in that municipalities were not "persons" within the meaning of 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

In amplification of point or reason (2) as to why certiorari should be granted, that is, that the Court of Appeals' judgment in the instant case is in conflict with decisions of this Court, it is respectfully pointed out that this Court, in the case of *U. S. v. International Building Co.*, 1953, 345 U.S. 502, at 504, said and held:

"The governing principle is stated in *Cromwell v. County of Sac*, 94 U.S. 351, 352-353, a judgment is an absolute bar to a subsequent action on the same claim.

"But where the second action between the same parties is upon a different claim or demand, the judgment in the prior action operates as an estoppel only as to those matters in issue or points controverted, upon the determination of which the finding or verdict was rendered. In all cases, therefore, where it is sought to apply the estoppel of a judgment rendered upon one cause of action to matters arising in a suit upon a different cause of action, the inquiry must always be as to the point or question actually litigated and determined in the original action, not what might have been thus litigated and determined. Only upon such matters is the judgment conclusive in another action."

Also, to same effect, see *Lawlor v. National Screen Service Corp.*, 75 S.Ct. 865, 349 U.S. 322, 99 L.Ed. 1122.

The judgment of the Court of Appeals in the instant case is in conflict with the decisions of this Court in the two cases just cited, because when the rule followed by this Court in the above cited cases is applied to the facts of the instant case, it is clear that res judicata does not apply to petitioner's action filed in the District Court, because the demand and claim in the District Court is not the same demand and claim as was made in the state court action [Case No. 1771], and the issues raised by the complaint filed by petitioner in the District Court are not the same issues as were litigated and determined in the prior state court action. In the state court action, the only issue was did Carter County, Tennessee do acts which caused Stoney Creek to flood petitioner's land on April 3, 1974, as alleged in the complaint, as amended, in the state court action, thereby making Carter County responsive to petitioner in damages for injury on that

date done to her land and house? *Jones v. Cocke County*, 61 Tenn. App. 555, 456 S.W. 2d 665; *Johnson v. Roane County*, 212 Tenn. 433, 370 S.W. 2d 496. The issues raised by the complaint filed by petitioner in the District Court are: (2) Did respondent J. W. Street, acting under authority of his office as Superintendent of Roads of Carter County, enter upon petitioner's land in *March and April*, 1975 without authority, without search warrant, without permission from petitioner or her agents or cotenant, and without having taken previous judicial proceeding, and bulldoze her land in violation of her rights under the Fourth Amendment to the Federal Constitution? (2) Did respondent J. W. Street, acting under color of state law and his office of Superintendent of Roads, damage or take petitioner's *personal property* without compensation and without procedural due process by filing condemnation proceedings and affording petitioner a hearing, in violation of the Fifth and 14th Amendments to the Constitution? (3) Did respondent J. W. Street, acting under color of state law and under color of his office, injure or damage petitioner's land or cause same to be damaged or injured in March and April, 1975, in such manner as to amount to a taking and was it a taking without due process and compensation, in violation of the Fifth and 14th Amendment? (4) Did J. W. Street, acting under color of state law, discriminate against petitioner and deprive her of her privileges under Article 4, § 2, Cl. 1 of the Federal Constitution? These issues were not, and could not have been, litigated in the state court action, and res judicata is not applicable.

The state court action involved *property* rights, but the civil rights action in the District Court involves *personal* rights assured by the Federal Constitution. *Lynch v. Household Finance Corporation*, 405 U.S. 538,

92 S.Ct. 1113. The civil rights action in the instant case as filed in the District Court does not involve the same demand and claim as was made in the prior state action.

In the *Monroe v. Pape* (1961), 365 U.S. 167, 81 S.Ct. 473, 5 L.Ed. 2d 492, case, this Court held that the remedy under Rev. Stat. § 1979 (42 U.S.C. § 1983) is a proceeding to redress injuries to parties deprived of constitutional rights, privileges, and immunities by an official's abuse of his position; provides a remedy where state law is inadequate; and that the federal remedy "is supplementary to the state remedy." This Court has, therefore, said that the remedy under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 is an independent demand and claim different and in addition to any state remedy. The Court of Appeals, in the instant case, has applied res judicata contrary to the holding of this Court in the case of *Monroe v. Pape*. Relative to petitioner's Fourth Amendment rights, the Court's attention is invited to *Camara v. Municipal Court of City and County of San Francisco*, 87 S.Ct. 1727.

#### VII. RELIEF SOUGHT

WHEREFORE, petitioner Lela Ensor Bailey prays that the writ of certiorari, for which this is the first application, issue from this Honorable Supreme Court to the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, at Cincinnati, Ohio, and to the Clerk thereof, to certify and transmit to this Court the entire record and proceedings in this cause and the opinion and decree of the Court of Appeals; that this case be placed upon the docket of the Court for argument; that the judgment, opinion, and decree of the Court of Appeals of the Sixth Circuit in this cause be reviewed and reversed and the errors com-

plained of corrected; that the judgment of the Court of Appeals be reversed; and that the cause be remanded to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Northeastern Division, at Greeneville, Tennessee, for trial upon the merits; that justice be done and for general relief.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lodge Evans*  
LODGE EVANS  
Arcade Building  
609 Elk Avenue  
Elizabethton, Tennessee 37643

Attorney for the Petitioner  
Lela Ensor Bailey

## APPENDUM

ORDER of United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, entered January 13, 1978.

NO. 76-2015

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

LELA ENSOR BAILEY,	)	
Plaintiff- Appellant,	)	
v.	)	ORDER
J. W. STREET,	)	FILED
Defendant-Appellee.	)	JAN 13 1978
		John P. Hehman, Clerk

Before: CELEBREZZE, ENGEL and KEITH, Circuit Judges.

Appellant, Bailey, owns an interest in certain real estate in Carter County, Tennessee. Appellee is Road Superintendent of Carter County. Appellant and her co-owner brought an action in State Court to recover damages for injury caused to her property by water being diverted onto her property by a new bridge built nearby by Carter County. The State Court action, which resulted in a judgment of \$1500.00 for Appellant also named Appellee and Carter County as Defendants.

Appellant subsequently brought an action in the U. S. District Court based upon 48 U.S.C. § 1983, alleging a

deprivation of Appellant's civil rights. The District Court dismissed Appellant's complaint on the grounds that the suit was barred by the prior State Court action on the principles of *res judicata*. This appeal followed.

[2]

This case was submitted on the briefs of the respective parties. Upon due consideration of the briefs and record, we find that the District Court did not err in dismissing the complaint on the grounds of *res judicata*. *Rogoski v. City of Muskegon*, 550 F.2d 1075 (6th Cir. 1977); *Deane Hill Country Club, Inc. v. City of Knoxville*, 379 F.2d 321, 325-26 (6th Cir. 1967).

It is ordered that the judgment of the District Court be and it hereby is affirmed.

ENTERED BY ORDER OF THE COURT

/s/ John P. Hehman

Clerk

ORDER on Mandate Affirming Judgment of District Court, entered February 16, 1978, In The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

LELA ENSOR BAILEY,	)
Petitioner,	)
v.	) No. CIV-2-76-1
J. W. STREET,	)
Respondent.	) F I L E D
	FEB 16 1978

ORDER ON MANDATE AFFIRMING  
JUDGMENT OF DISTRICT COURT

Lela Ensor Bailey, having appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit on the eighth day of July, 1976, from the judgment entered in this cause on the 24th day of June, 1976, and the said Court of Appeals having issued its mandate dated the 13th day of January, 1978, wherein it was ordered that the judgment of the United States District Court was affirmed;

Now, therefore, upon the mandate of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, dated the 13th day of January, 1978, and filed herein on the 10th day of February, 1978,

IT IS ORDERED that the judgment entered in this cause on the 24th day of June, 1976, be and the same hereby is made final.

ENTER:

/s/ C. G. NEESE  
( C. G. Neese )

United States District Judge

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER entered June 24, 1976 in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

In The  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

LELA ENSOR BAILEY,	)
Plaintiff,	)
v.	) No. CIV-2-76-1
J. W. STREET,	) FILED
Defendant.	JUN 24 1976

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

This is an action to recover money damages for the alleged deprivation by the defendant of the plaintiff's

federal civil rights. 42 U.S.C. § 1983. The Court's jurisdiction was invoked.\*

[2]

under 28 U.S.C. § 1343 (3). The defendant moved for a dismissal of the action for lack of the Court's jurisdiction of the subject matter, Rule 12 (b) (1), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and for the failure of the plaintiff to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, Rule 12 (b) (6), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or in the alternative for a summary judgment, Rule 56 (b), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

This Court is of opinion that the plaintiff's action herein is barred on the ground of res judicata. She " \* \* \* must abide by the rule that a judgment upon the merits in one suit is res judicata in another where the parties and the subject matter are the same, not only as respects matters actually presented to sustain or defeat the right asserted, but also as respects any other matter which might have been presented to that end. \* \* \*" *Grubbs v. Public Utilities Commission* (1930), 281 U.S. 470, 479, 50 S.Ct. 374, 74 L.Ed. 972, 979 (headnote 10).

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\* The plaintiff also undertook to invoke this Court's diversity jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 (a)(1) as between citizens of different states; however, she claimed only that she was a "resident" of Kentucky and that the defendant was a "resident" of Tennessee. These constitute insufficient allegations of the respective citizenships of the parties. *Smith v. Dealers Transit, Inc.*, D. C. Tenn. (1964), 239 F. Supp. 605, 607 [9], cited in *Grise v. Crownover*, D. C. Tenn. (1971), 57 F.R.D. 210, 211, n. [1]. Of course, defective allegations of jurisdiction may be amended, 28 U.S.C. § 1653; *Wells v. Celanese Corporation of America*, D. C. Tenn. (1964), 239 F. Supp. 603, 604, but the disposition of this matter renders the additional invoking of the Court's jurisdiction irrelevant.

Verified exhibits before the Court reflect that Ms. Bailey sued Mr. Street in an inverse condemnation proceeding over same subject

[3]

as she presents herein, and that she obtained a judgment on May 22, 1975 on the merits therein. *Lela Ensor Bailey and Mary Ensor, plaintiffs, v. J. W. Street, Superintendent or Roads of Carter County, Tennessee, defendant*, civil action no. 1771 in the Circuit Court of Carter County, Tennessee. The plaintiff concedes that such judgment is final.

Both lawsuits complain of the construction of a land-fill bridge across Stoney Creek in Carter County, Tennessee and flood damage to the property in which the plaintiff owns an interest as a result. Ms. Bailey claims herein that, in the process of accomplishing this public purpose, Mr. Street violated certain of her civil rights. In her earlier state court lawsuit she did not advance the federal constitutional claims she presents here. The state court was competent to decide questions arising under the federal Constitution. *Deane Hill Country Club, Inc. v. City of Knoxville*, C.A. 6th (1967), 379 F. (2d) 321, 325 [6], certiorari denied (1967), 389 U.S. 975, 88 S.Ct. 476, 19 L.Ed. (2d) 567. She is not permitted to withhold presentation of federal constitutional matters to sustain the rights she asserted in her state court action and then turn to a

[4]

federal forum and litigate the same federal claim which she might have presented against Mr. Street in her state court action because she is dissatisfied with the action of the state court. *Ibid.*, 379 F. (2d) at 325 [6, 7].

For such reason, the defendant's motion for a dismissal of this action for the failure of the plaintiff to state a claim on which relief can be granted hereby is SUSTAINED, and this action hereby is

DISMISSED.

ENTER:

/s/ C. G. NEESE

( C. G. Neese )

United States District Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Lodge Evans, Attorney for Petitioner Lela Ensor Bailey in the cause of Lela Ensor Bailey v. J. W. Street, certify that I have on the date that appears on the letter of transmittal to the Clerk of the United States Supreme Court by which the foregoing petition is transmitted for filing served the foregoing petition for certiorari and appendum upon counsel for J. W. Street, the respondent, as follows:

(1) I have on the date indicated delivered three copies of the petition for certiorari and appendum into the hands of and left same with Mr. Robert E. Banks and Mr. Lewis Merryman

Attorneys at Law  
Riverview Building  
Academy St. at Elk Ave.  
Elizabethton, Tenn. 37643

(2) I have on the date indicated deposited three copies of the petition for certiorari and appendum in the United States Mail at Elizabethton, Tennessee, first class postage prepaid, in an envelope properly sealed and addressed as follows:

Mr. S. J. Milligan  
Milligan, Coleman, Fletcher & Gaby  
Attorneys at Law  
First National Bank Building  
Greeneville, Tennessee 37743.

Witness my hand 3/16/78

*Lodge Evans*  
Lodge Evans  
Attorney for Petitioner

APR 21 1978

MICHAEL RODAK, JR., CLERK

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# Supreme Court of the United States

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No. 77-1313

October Term, 1977

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LELA ENSOR BAILEY,  
*Petitioner*,

VS.

J. W. STREET,  
*Respondent*.

---

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE  
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE  
SIXTH CIRCUIT

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## BRIEF OF J. W. STREET, RESPONDENT, IN OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Question Presented .....	2
Counter-Statement of the Case .....	2
Argument .....	5
Res Judicata .....	5
Parties .....	5
The Subject Matter Is the Same .....	6
The Judgment Is on the Merits and Is Final .....	8
The Law .....	8
Federal Action As an Appeal From State Judgment .....	9
Pretermitted Defenses .....	11
Conclusion .....	11
Addendum:	
State Statute Cited .....	13
Excerpts From State Court Complaint .....	13
Excerpts From State Court Judgment .....	14

## TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

---

### Cases

<i>Cheatham v. Carter County</i> , 363 F.2d 582, 4 ALR F. 226 .....	10
<i>Coogan v. Cincinnati Bar Association</i> , 421 F.2d 1209 (6th Cir. 1970) .....	9
<i>Deane Hill Country Club, Inc. v. City of Knoxville, et al.</i> , 379 F.2d 321 (1967), cert. denied, 389 U.S. 975, 19 L. Ed. 2d 467 .....	9

<i>Grubb v. Public Utilities Commission</i> , 281 U.S. 470, 74 L. Ed. 972 .....	8
<i>Jones v. Township of North Bergen</i> , 331 F. Supp. 1281 (1971) .....	9
<i>Scott v. Roane County</i> , 478 S.W.2d 886 .....	6, 7

**Statutes and Rules**

**Fed. R. Civ. Proc.:**

Rule 12(b)(1) .....	2
Rule 12(b)(6) .....	2
Rule 56(b) .....	2
 Tennessee Code Annotated, §20-1318 .....	8
Tennessee Code Annotated, §23-1423 .....	3, 6, 7, 10
28 U.S.C. §1332(a)(1) .....	2
28 U.S.C. §1343(3) .....	2
42 U.S.C. §1983 .....	2

**Supreme Court of the United States**

**No. 77-1313**

**October Term, 1977**

**LELA ENSOR BAILEY,  
Petitioner,**

**vs.**

**J. W. STREET,  
Respondent.**

**ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE  
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE  
SIXTH CIRCUIT**

**BRIEF OF J. W. STREET, RESPONDENT, IN  
OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR  
WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

The respondent submits this Brief in Opposition to a Petition for a Writ of Certiorari filed March 18, 1978. The Petition seeks a review of a decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit dated January 13, 1978. That decision affirmed an order of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee dismissing respondent's case on the grounds of res judicata and there is no reason for further review by this Court.

### QUESTION PRESENTED

Is the final judgment in the State case in which the parties are the same and the subject matter is the same, res judicata as to this action?

The District Court<sup>1</sup> and the Court of Appeals<sup>2</sup> answered the foregoing question "yes." Respondent says that they should have answered the question "yes."

### COUNTER-STATEMENT OF THE CASE

This is an action filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee, on January 5, 1796, to recover money damages by reason of the alleged deprivation by the respondent of petitioner's Civil Rights, 42 U.S.C. §1983. The Court's jurisdiction was invoked under 28 U.S.C. §1333(3) and also by reason of alleged diversity under 28 U.S.C. §1332(a)(1).

The respondent moved for dismissal for lack of the Court's jurisdiction, Rule 12(b)(1), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and for the failure of the petitioner to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, Rule 12(b)(6), or in the alternative, for summary judgment, Rule 56(b), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

District Court Judge Neese pretermitted the jurisdictional question and the defense of immunity and sustained the Motion to Dismiss for failure to state a claim on the ground that this action was barred by reason of res judicata.<sup>3</sup>

1. Petitioner's Brief—Addendum, page 25.
2. Petitioner's Brief—Addendum, page 22.
3. Petitioner's Brief—Addendum, page 25.

An appeal was taken by the petitioner-appellant to the Court of Appeals and in petitioner's brief, counsel, in his statement of the issues presented, limited same to the alleged error of the District Court in sustaining respondent's Motion to Dismiss on the principles of res judicata.

### Res Judicata

One of the grounds relied on by the respondent herein in support of his Motion to Dismiss or for Summary Judgment is that petitioner's action herein is barred on the ground of res judicata.

The record discloses that petitioner was the owner of an interest in a house and lot in Carter County, Tennessee; that J. W. Street, Superintendent of Roads for Carter County, acting under the authority and on behalf of Carter County, in his official capacity, reconstructed a bridge across a creek near the petitioner's property and as a consequence, it is alleged that said bridge diverted water onto petitioner's property, to their damage.

Whereupon, said property owners brought suit "for damages in the ordinary way"<sup>4</sup> against J. W. Street, Superintendent of Roads for Carter County, seeking to recover damages against Carter County for the alleged appropriation of their property, *real and personal*<sup>5</sup> (emphasis ours).

After a jury trial, the jury reached a verdict in favor of the petitioners and did "fix their damages and compensation at \$1,500.00."<sup>6</sup>

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4. Tennessee Code Annotated 23-1423 Addendum to Respondent's Brief, page 13.
5. Excerpts from State Court Complaint, Addendum page 13.
6. Excerpts from State Court Judgment, Addendum page 14.

No appeal was prayed or granted, the time for appeal has expired and judgment became final and it is so stipulated by petitioner's counsel.

## **ARGUMENT**

### **Res Judicata**

The District Court predicated its action insustaining respondent's motion to dismiss on the defense of res judicata.

The Court properly held that the parties are the same, that the subject matter was the same, and the judgment of the State Court was final and accordingly the doctrine of res judicata applied. The Court of Appeals affirmed.

### **Parties**

The parties are the same.

In the State Court action, Lela Ensor Bailey, petitioner herein, and her sister, who owned a one-fourth interest in the property, were plaintiffs and the named defendants were J. W. Street, Road Superintendent for Carter County, and Carter County, Tennessee. In the instant action, the suit was filed by Lela Ensor Bailey against J. W. Street.

In the complaint, Section III, it is alleged that he is the duly elected Superintendent of Roads of Carter County, Tennessee, has been since 1959, "and all acts herein ascribed to him, and upon which civil liability by him to the plaintiff is predicated, were performed and done by him under color of the statutory or other law of the State of Tennessee and while acting as Superintendent of Roads of Carter County, Tennessee, and all acts herein alleged to have been done by him were so done under the authority and color of his office as Superintendent of Roads."

From the allegations of the complaint, the respondent Street, as an agent and representative of the County and as a named respondent, in his official capacity in the State case, was in privity with the County. In fact, the petitioner, in her brief, in effect concedes that Carter County and J. W. Street were privies.<sup>7</sup>

#### The Subject Matter Is the Same

The petitioner herein and her sister, co-owners of the property involved, brought a civil action in the State Court against the respondent herein as Superintendent of Roads of Carter County, and Carter County, Tennessee, on July 23, 1974, seeking to recover damages for the alleged appropriation of "both real and personal property" of the petitioners alleging in substance that their property had been taken and appropriated by the County by reason of construction of a bridge across Stoney Creek adjacent to their property, causing water, at flood time, to be diverted onto their property, damaging the residence and personal property therein.

The petitioner bases this action upon the provisions of T.C.A. 23-1423, which provides that when property has been taken and occupied for purposes of internal improvement, that the owner may initiate an action by a proceeding sometimes referred to as "inverse condemnation" or he may sue for damages in the ordinary way.<sup>8</sup>

The State action was brought under the second remedy or as a suit for damages in the ordinary way.

In *Scott v. Roane County*, 478 S.W.2d 886, in an opinion by the Supreme Court of Tennessee, the Court said:

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7. Petitioner's brief, page 8.

8. Addendum, Tennessee Code Annotated 23-1423, page 13.

"The Statute 23-1423 should be read as allowing two distinct actions. The first being an inverse or reverse condemnation action and the second being a suit for damages in the ordinary way."

In the State Court action it is stated that petitioners file their complaint as an inverse condemnation case seeking to recover damages for the taking of real and personal property.<sup>9</sup>

They do not ask for a jury of view, but pursue the case as an ordinary damage case.

In *Scott (supra)*, the same procedure was followed and the Court classified the action as follows:

"From these pleadings it is clear the plaintiff was seeking relief under the second remedy or *an action for damages in the ordinary way*." (Emphasis ours.)

Petitioner insists that she could not and did not recover for damages to the personal property in the residence.

1. Because the State action was based upon facts occurring prior to its filing; and
2. Because under Section T.C.A. 23-1423, no recovery could be had for the taking of personal property.

She states that she was prevented from litigating this issue in the State Court because of Tennessee law, but fails to cite any authority in support of this statement.<sup>10</sup>

The record discloses that in the action, petitioners sought to recover for damages to the real and personal property and the verdict of the jury and the judgment of the Court show they "find the issue in favor of the

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9. Addendum, Excerpts from Complaint, page 13.

10. Petitioner's Brief, page 16.

plaintiffs and fix their damages and compensation at \$1,500.00."

This was a general verdict and embraced every issue joined, including damages to personality and compensation for the taking.<sup>11</sup>

We interpret the word "damages" as meaning damages to the personal property, and "compensation" as being for damages for the taking.

The judgment of the Court was that the petitioners recover from Carter County the sum of Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) "as and for all damages and incidental damages, and compensation for a flowage easement over plaintiffs' land taken in manner as alleged in the complaint as amended \* \* \*."<sup>12</sup>

#### **The Judgment Is on the Merits and Is Final**

If the petitioner had been dissatisfied with the judgment in the State Court, which was on the merits, there was nothing to prevent her from taking an appeal; however, she elected not so to do and the judgment became final. It is conceded by petitioner's counsel that no appeal was taken and said judgment is final.

#### **The Law**

In *Grubb v. Public Utilities Commission*, 281 U.S. 470-479, 74 L. Ed. 972-979, the Supreme Court of the United States held as follows:

"that a judgment upon the merits in one suit is res judicata in another where the parties and subject

matter are the same not only as respects matters actually presented to sustain or defeat the right asserted, but also as respects any other available matter which might have been presented to that end."

To the same effect see *Deane Hill Country Club, Inc. v. City of Knoxville, et al.*, 379 F.2d 321 (1967), cert. denied, 389 U.S. 975, 19 L. Ed. 2d 467.

Both of the above cases are cited in the opinion of the District Court.

#### **Federal Action As an Appeal From State Judgment**

Petitioner is now attempting to effect an appeal from the judgment of the State Court, which she did not take when she had an opportunity so to do, and to relitigate her alleged grievances in a Federal Court. As stated in *Jones v. Township of North Bergen*, 331 F. Supp. 1281 (1971):

"This case is another example of increasing prevalence of the mistaken notion that it is more advantageous to litigants to have their grievances litigated in a federal court under color of some provision of the United States Constitution or the Civil Rights Act. Ingenuity in framing allegations to bring litigation across the federal threshold and by-pass State courts has been energetically employed. The burden cast upon federal district courts by matters for which the State provides appropriate and competent tribunals is becoming tremendously heavy."

To the same effect see *Coogan v. Cincinnati Bar Association*, 421 F.2d 1209 at 1211 (6th Cir. 1970), wherein the Court said:

11. Tennessee Code Annotated 20-1318, Addendum, page 13.

12. Excerpts from Judgment—Addendum, page 14.

"The Civil Rights Act was not designed to be used as a substitute for the right appeal, or to collaterally attack a final judgment of the highest court of the state and relitigate the issues which it decided.

The final judgment of the Supreme Court is conclusive and Coogan is precluded by the doctrine of res judicata from relitigating not only the issues which were actually involved in the disbarment proceeding, but also the issues which he might have presented. *Burton, Inc. v. Durkee*, 162 Ohio St. 433, 438, 123 N.E. 2d 432 (1954)."

In *Cheatham v. Carter County*, 363 F.2d 582, 4 A.L.R. F. 226, land was sought to be condemned by Carter County, the record owner being the only defendant named, which defendant had previously contracted to sell the property sought to be acquired to non-resident owners. Whereupon the record owner disclaimed any interest in the land and sought to be dismissed from the condemnation action. The owners of the equitable interest later perfected into a fee by the execution of a deed by the record owner instituted an *in personam* action in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee seeking to recover the value of the land taken, Carter County, condemnor, having taken actual possession of the land.

The District Court dismissed the complaint characterizing plaintiff's action as a "reverse condemnation proceeding" and held that under T.C.A. 23-1423 such an action is limited to situations where there has been a taking without benefit of formal condemnation proceeding. On appeal, the Court held that the landowner's action in the United States District Court was one for damages against the defendant for taking of their property without compensation, such an action being authorized by the above Code

section wherein it is provided "or he may sue for damages in the ordinary way \* \* \*," citing cases.

#### **Pretermitted Defenses**

1. Petitioner's claim under the Civil Rights Act is that she had:
  - a. Been deprived of due process under the Fourth, Fifth and Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution.
  - b. Her property had been taken without just compensation; and
  - c. She had been discriminated against and subjected to unreasonable search and seizure, all in violation of her Constitutional rights.

However, she has failed to point wherein she has been discriminated against. She has had access to both the Chancery and Law Courts of Carter County and recovered all damages, including incidental damages, which, of course, would include damages to personal property alleged to have been sustained by her.

The Complaint is lacking in any allegations other than the conclusions of the pleader, which would bring her claim under the "Civil Rights Act" and thereby confer jurisdiction.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For reasons given in the District Court's Opinion and in the Opinion of the Court of Appeals said Courts reached the proper conclusion. Further review by this Court is unwarranted.

It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that the Petition for Writ of Certiorari should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

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**ADDENDUM**

**STATE STATUTE CITED**

**Tennessee Code Annotated, §23-1423**

23-1423. Action initiated by owner. -If, however, such person or company has actually taken possession of such land, occupying it for the purposes of internal improvement, the owner of such land may petition for a jury of inquest, in which case the same proceedings may be had, as near as may be, as hereinbefore provided; or he may sue for damages in the ordinary way, in which case the jury shall lay off the land in metes and bounds and assess the damages, as upon the trial of an appeal from the return of a jury of inquest. [Code 1858 §1347; Shan., §1866; Code 1932, §3131; Acts 1972 (Adj. S.), ch. 463 §3.]

**Tennessee Code Annotated, §20-1318**

20-1318. Scope of general verdict. -A general verdict, although it may not in terms answer every issue joined, is nevertheless held to embrace every issue, unless exception is taken at the term at which the verdict is rendered. [Code 1858, §4247 (deriv. Acts 1851-1852, ch. 152, §4); Shan., §6085; Code 1932, §10348.]

**Excerpts From State Court Complaint**

VIII. The taking of plaintiffs' said property and the inflicting of irreparable damages upon plaintiff's real and personal property in the house \* \* \* and thereby inflicting irreparable damage to plaintiff's house and land and the household furniture, appliances and personal property in the house to the extent of \$20,000.00.

**Excerpts From State Court Judgment**

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND  
DECREED BY THE COURT:

1. That the plaintiffs have and recover of defendant Carter County, Tennessee the sum of \$1500.00 as and for all damages and incidental damages, and compensation for a flowage easement over plaintiffs' land taken in manner as alleged in the complaint as amended, and the costs of the cause are taxed to defendant Carter County, and for all of which execution will issue.